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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/502,515	05/27/2005	Filippa Brugliera	17922	5939

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EXAMINER	
KUMAR, VINOD	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1638	

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10/05/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/502,515	BRUGLIERA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anne Marie Grunberg	1661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-69 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) 1-69 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 10, 19, and 28, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:1 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:2, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group II, claim(s) 11, 20, and 29, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:4 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:4 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:5, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group III, claim(s) 12, 21, and 30, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:6 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:6, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group IV, claim(s) 13, 22, and 31, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:26 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:26 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:7, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group V, claim(s) 14, 23, and 32, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:11 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:11 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:12, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group VI, claim(s) 15, 24, and 33, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:21 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:21 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:22, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group VII, claim(s) 16, 25, and 34, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:41 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID

NO:41 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:42, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

Group VIII, claim(s) 17, 26, and 35, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:43 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:43 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:44, and to a genetic construct comprising said nucleic acid.

GROUPS I-VIII ARE LINKED BY CLAIMS 1-9, 18, 27, 36-44, AND 65

Group IX, claim(s) 45 and 46, drawn to an extract from a plant comprising a genetic construct encoding a flavonoid methyltransferase (FMT).

Group X, claim(s) 52 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:1 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:2.

Group XI, claim(s) 53 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:4 or capable of

hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:4 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:5.

Group XII, claim(s) 54 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:6 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:6.

Group XIII, claim(s) 55 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:26 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:26 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:7.

Group XIV, claim(s) 56 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:11 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:11 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:12.

Group XV, claim(s) 57 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic

acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:21 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:21 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:22.

Group XVI, claim(s) 58 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:41 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:41 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:42.

Group XVII, claim(s) 59 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant which expresses recombinant FMT protein, wherein the plant is transformed with an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO43 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO43 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:44.

GROUPS X-XVII ARE LINKED BY CLAIMS 47, 50 (in part), 51 (in part), AND 60.

Group XVIII, claim(s) 52 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least

50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:1 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:2.

Group XIX, claim(s) 53 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:4 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:4 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:5.

Group XX, claim(s) 54 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:6 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:6.

Group XXI, claim(s) 55 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:26 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:26 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:7.

Group XXII, claim(s) 56 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an

FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:11 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:11 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:12.

Group XXIII, claim(s) 57 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:21 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:21 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:22.

Group XXIV, claim(s) 58 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:41 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:41 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:42.

Group XXV, claim(s) 59 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by stable transformation with a sequence complimentary to an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO43 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO43 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:44.

GROUPS XVIII-XXV ARE LINKED BY CLAIMS 48, 50, 51 (in part), AND 60.

Group XXVI, claim(s) 52 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:1 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:2.

Group XXVII, claim(s) 53 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:4 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:4 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:5.

Group XXVIII, claim(s) 54 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:6 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:6.

Group XXIX, claim(s) 55 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least

50% identity to SEQ ID NO:26 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:26 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:7.

Group XXX, claim(s) 56 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:11 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:11 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:12.

Group XXXII, claim(s) 57 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:21 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:21 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:22.

Group XXXIII, claim(s) 58 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:41 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:41 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:42.

Group XXXIV, claim(s) 59 (in part), drawn to a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous FMT activity by homologous recombination utilizing sequences from an FMT-encoding sequence, wherein the FMT-encoding is a nucleic acid sequence with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO43 or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO43 or encoding a polypeptide with at least 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:44.

GROUPS XXVI-XXXIV ARE LINKED BY CLAIMS 49, 50 (in part), 51 (in part), AND 60.

Groups XXXV-XLII, claim(s) 61 (in part), drawn to an isolated oligonucleotide of at least 5 nucleotides that is defined by its relationship to a specified sequence; wherein the specified sequence for groups XXXV-XLII is SEQ ID NO: 1, 4, 6, 11, 21, 26, 41, and 43, respectively.

Groups XLIII-LXXI, claim(s) 62 (in part), drawn to an isolated oligonucleotide sequence; wherein the sequence for groups XLIII-LXXI is SEQ ID NO: 3, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40, respectively.

Groups LXXII-LXXIX, claim(s) 63 and 64, drawn to an isolated recombinant FMT protein, wherein the protein is defined by its relationship to a specified amino acid sequence or is encoded by a nucleic acid defined by its relationship to a specified nucleotide sequence; wherein the nucleotide sequence for groups LXX-LXXIX is SEQ ID NO: 1, 4, 6, 11, 21, 26, 41, and 43, respectively, and wherein the amino acid sequence for group LXXII is SEQ ID NO:2, the amino

acid sequence for group LXXIII is SEQ ID NO:5, and the amino acid sequence for groups LXXV-LXXIX is SEQ ID NO: 12, 22, 7, 42, and 44, respectively.

Groups LXXX-LXXXVII, claim(s) 66, drawn to a prokaryotic organism carrying a sequence encoding an FMT extrachromasomally in plasmid form; wherein the FMT is defined by its relationship to a specified amino acid sequence or is encoded by a nucleic acid defined by its relationship to a specified nucleotide sequence; wherein the nucleotide sequence for groups LXXX-LXXXVII is SEQ ID NO: 1, 4, 6, 11, 21, 26, 41, and 43, respectively, and wherein the amino acid sequence for group LXXX is SEQ ID NO:2, the amino acid sequence for group LXXXI is SEQ ID NO:5, and the amino acid sequence for groups LXXXIII-LXXXVII is SEQ ID NO: 12, 22, 7, 42, and 44, respectively.

Groups LXXXVIII-XCV, claim(s) 67, drawn to a eukaryotic organism carrying a sequence encoding an FMT extrachromasomally in plasmid form; wherein the FMT is defined by its relationship to a specified amino acid sequence or is encoded by a nucleic acid defined by its relationship to a specified nucleotide sequence; wherein the nucleotide sequence for groups LXXXVIII-XCV is SEQ ID NO: 1, 4, 6, 11, 21, 26, 41, and 43, respectively, and wherein the amino acid sequence for group LXXXVIII is SEQ ID NO:2, the amino acid sequence for group LXXXIX is SEQ ID NO:5, and the amino acid sequence for groups XCI-XCV is SEQ ID NO: 12, 22, 7, 42, and 44, respectively.

Groups XCVI-CIII, claim(s) 68 and 69, drawn to the use of a nucleic acid molecule encoding an FMT; wherein the FMT is defined by its relationship to a specified amino acid sequence or is encoded by a nucleic acid defined by its relationship to a specified nucleotide sequence; wherein the nucleotide sequence for groups XCVI-CIII is SEQ ID NO: 1, 4, 6, 11, 21, 26, 41, and 43, respectively, and wherein the amino acid sequence for group XCVI is SEQ ID NO:2, the amino acid sequence for group XCVII is SEQ ID NO:5, and the amino acid sequence for groups XCIX-CIII is SEQ ID NO: 12, 22, 7, 42, and 44, respectively.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I-CIII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

The technical feature linking groups I-CIII is a nucleic acid encoding an FMT. In the prior art, Christensen et al (PMB (1998) Vol. 36, pp. 219-227) teach a nucleic acid encoding an FMT from barley (see page 222, left column). Therefore, the technical feature linking the inventions of groups I-CIII does not constitute a special technical feature as defined by PCT Rule 13.2 as it does not define a contribution over the prior art.

Accordingly, Groups I-CIII are not so linked by the same or a corresponding special technical feature as to form a single general inventive concept.

3. Claims 1-9, 18, 27, 36-44, and 65 link the inventions of groups I-VIII. Claims 47, 50 (in part), 51 (in part), and 60 link the inventions of groups X-XVII. Claims 48, 50, 51 (in part), and 60 link the inventions of groups XVIII-XXV. Claims 49, 50 (in part), 51 (in part), and 60, link

the inventions of groups XXVI-XXXIV. The restriction requirement between the linked inventions is subject to the nonallowance of the linking claims. Upon the allowance of the linking claims, the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn and any claims depending from or otherwise including all the limitations of the allowable linking claims will be entitled to examination in the instant application. Applicants are advised that if any such claims depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable linking claims are presented in a continuation or divisional application, the claims of the continuation or divisional application may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant applications. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. In re Ziegler, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP 804.01.

4. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102,

103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder**. Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

5. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of an invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

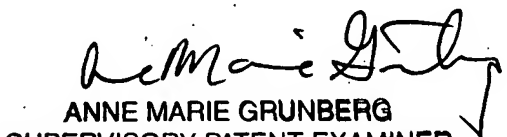
Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vinod Kumar whose telephone number is 571-272-4445. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anne Marie Grunberg can be reached on 571-272-0975. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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